$\frac{}{}$ de maximis, inc.

186 Center Street Suite 290 Clinton, NJ 08809 (908) 735-9315 (908) 735-2132 FAX

November 15, 2019

VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL

Ms. Diane Salkie
ATTN: Lower Passaic River Remedial Project Manager
Emergency and Remedial Response Division
U.S. EPA, Region 2
290 Broadway, 19th Floor
New York, New York 10007

Re: Monthly Progress Report No. 150 - October 2019

Lower Passaic River Study Area (LPRSA) Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study

(RI/FS)

CERCLA Docket No. 02-2007-2009

Dear Ms. Salkie:

de maximis, inc. is submitting this Monthly Progress Report for the above-captioned project on the behalf of the RI/FS Agreement Settling Parties (Cooperative Parties Group or CPG) pursuant to the Administrative Settlement Agreement and Order on Consent (Settlement Agreement or AOC). The Progress Report satisfies the reporting requirements of Paragraph 42 of said Settlement Agreement. The CPG has revised this Progress Report to address the Region's direction in its September 1, 2015 letter about Section (d).

(a) Actions which have been taken to comply with this Settlement Agreement during the previous month.

Meetings/Conference Calls

- On October 16, EPA Region 2 (Region 2), CPG, and New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP) held a teleconference to discuss the Upper 9-Mile Interim Remedy (IR) Completion.
- On October 24, Region 2, CPG, and NJDEP held a meeting to discuss Upper 9-Mile IR Completion.

Correspondence

- On October 2, CPG uploaded the 17-Mile Remedial Investigation (RI) Supplemental Sampling Program (SSP) and SSP2 Final data reports to the EPA SharePoint site.
- On October 3, Region 2 and CPG exchanged emails regarding the status of responses to IR Completion questions.



Ms. D. Salkie LPRSA RI/FS - Progress Report No. 150 – October 2019 November 15, 2019 Page 2 of 3

- On October 3, Region 2 invited CPG to participate in the Contaminated Sediments Technical Advisory Group (CSTAG)/National Remedy Review Board (NRRB) meeting on November 20, 2019.
- On October 8, Region 2 requested information from CPG regarding any modifications to the schedule for the Physical Water Column Monitoring (PWCM) or Small Volume Chemical Water Column Monitoring (SV CWCM) field activities with respect to the scheduled Head of Passaic Regatta.
- On October 9, CPG responded to Region 2's invitation to attend the November 20, 2019 CSTAG/NRRB meeting.
- On October 10, CPG uploaded the Newark Bay Contaminant Fate and Transport (CFT) Model Report to the EPA SharePoint site.
- On October 15, CPG delivered the September Monthly Progress Report to Region 2.
- On October 17, CPG provided Region 2 a compositing plan for fish and crab samples collected during the 2019 Current Conditions Sampling event.
- On October 18, Region 2 provided comments on the Draft Upper 9-Mile IR Feasibility Study (FS) to CPG.
- On October 21, Region 2 and CPG exchanged emails regarding the Current Conditions Biota sampling data.
- On October 21, Region 2 provided comments on the July 24, 2019 IR Completion memo to CPG.
- On October 22, CPG provided Region 2 a list of planned attendees for the scheduled October 24 IR FS meeting and a list of Region 2 questions that CPG would like to discuss during the meeting.
- On October 22, CPG submitted Appendix H of the Draft Upper 9-Mile IR FS to Region 2.
- On October 30, Region 2 and CPG exchanged emails regarding an NJDEP comment on the Draft Upper 9-Mile IR FS.

Work

- CPG continued work on supplemental modeling projections for the Draft Upper 9-Mile IR FS.
- CPG reviewed Region 2 comments on the Draft Upper 9-Mile IR FS.
- CPG continued field work for the PWCM component of Current Conditions Sampling.
- CPG continued field work for the SV CWCM component of Current Conditions Sampling.
- CPG continued validation of PWCM and SV CWCM data.
- CPG developed a compositing plan for the Biota Sampling program.
- CPG continued work on revision and calibration of the Bioaccumulation Model.
- CPG began preparations for participation at the CSTAG/NRRB meeting.

(b) Results of Sampling and Tests

None.



Ms. D. Salkie LPRSA RI/FS - Progress Report No. 150 – October 2019 November 15, 2019 Page 3 of 3

(c) Work planned for the next two months with schedules relating to the overall project schedule for RI/FS completion

- CPG will continue calibration of the Bioaccumulation Model.
- CPG will respond to comments on the Draft Upper 9-Mile IR FS.
- CPG will continue preparations for participation at the November CSTAG/NRRB Meeting.
- CPG will continue the PWCM and SV CWCM field work.
- CPG will continue validation of PWCM and SV CWCM data.
- CPG will continue supplemental modeling projections for the Draft Upper 9-Mile IR FS.

(d) <u>Problems encountered and anticipated problems, actual or anticipated delays, and solutions developed and implemented to address actual or anticipated problems or delays.</u>

None

If you have any questions, please contact Rob Law or me at (908) 735-9315.

Very truly yours,

de maximis, inc.

Willard Potter

CPG Project Coordinator

cc: Frances Zizila, EPA Region 2 Office of Regional Counsel William Hyatt, CPG Coordinating Counsel Lisa Baron, USACE Clay Stern, USFWS Reyhan Mehran, NOAA Jay Nickerson, NJDEP Beth Franklin, USACE Laura Kelmar, AECOM David Marabello, CDM-Smith Scott Kirchner, CDM-Smith